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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 1 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to present to you the attached letter from my President, H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, dated 1 June 1993, addressed to Your Excellency.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter and its attachment as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 1 June 1993 from the President of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council

Serb paramilitary units, directly supported by the Yugoslav Army from Serbia, continue their aggression throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. Gorazde is now the primary target, where enormous force is being used. The aggressor is destroying everything in its path. Eighteen villages in the Gorazde region are reported to have been burned and cleansed of their inhabitants. Everything from Ustipraca to Medjeda is literally in flames.

The aggressor is able to do this because you, the Security Council, have tied our hands while our people are being killed and our country is being destroyed.

You say that you do not wish to take sides in this conflict. But, Excellencies, you implicitly and explicitly took sides in this conflict when the Council imposed an arms embargo on the former Yugoslavia and when the Council decided to enforce the same resolution in respect of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The arms embargo has substantially helped the well-armed aggressor and tragically weakened the victim. This is now obvious to everyone.

The consequences are clear and tragic: two thirds of our country is occupied; over 200,000 civilians have been killed; more than 2 million civilians have been uprooted from their homes; hundreds of towns and villages have been destroyed. This is the price this country and its people have paid for one unfortunate decision and for your unyielding opposition to it being corrected, despite the fact that the situation in the former Yugoslavia has changed drastically.

Whether you will help us to defend ourselves is your prerogative and your right. Self-defence, however, is our right. You have taken away that right. You must return this right to us.

(Signed) Alija IZETBEGOVIC

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2 June 1993

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LETTER DATED 1 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Croatia is offering once again to accept international control on its entire border with Bosnia and Herzegovina and is calling for immediate implementation of the aforesaid measure. At the same time, the Croatian Government is urging that monitors be posted immediately on the border between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Croatia is also calling for rapid implementation of Security Council resolution 769 (1992) concerning control by the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) of the international border of Croatia that is adjacent to the United Nations Protected Areas. We would like to emphasize the importance of the border control in implementation of Security Council resolutions 757 (1992), 787 (1992) and 820 (1993) concerning the economic sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro.

It is our belief that tight and strict control of the above-mentioned borders is absolutely necessary as a crucial step in easing tensions in the region and stopping Serbian aggression. It is important not only as a measure for preventing the flow of arms, ammunition and soldiers from Serbia to the occupied parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, but also as a step in strengthening the territorial integrity of Croatia and of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Serbian insurgents in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina are again trying to "unify" their self-proclaimed "States", militantly rejecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of two United Nations Member States - Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is a major obstacle to the peace and stability of the entire region; therefore we are calling on the Security Council to take the necessary steps in preventing this aggressive behaviour that is threatening the territorial integrity of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The recent events in Belgrade, including the ousting of the President of the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro) Dobrica Cosic, are a clear warning that Serbian policy is becoming more radical and more dangerous. It is no surprise that Serbian attacks on Croatian towns, as well as on Sarajevo and other targets in Bosnia and Herzegovina, are intensifying with horrifying

consequences. It is no surprise that Serbian warlords in the United Nations Protected Areas in Croatia are rejecting peace talks with the Croatian Government, as I have already informed the Security Council in my letter dated 27 May 1993 (S/25854). It is high time for the Security Council to take all steps available to it in achieving the implementation of its relevant resolutions and halting the aggression that is jeopardizing the stability of the European continent.

The inability of the world community to reach a consensus in the implementation of the peace plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina is encouraging militant Serbian extremists. It is the firm opinion of the Croatian Government that the Vance-Owen plan remains the best option for a secure and stable future for Bosnia and Herzegovina. Observing, controlling and defending the international borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as establishing safe areas in that Republic, are the first step in achieving the goals of the Vance-Owen plan.

I would be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Permanent Representative